Translating Science into Action

Chicago Wilderness

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Creating place-based climate adaptation strategies for the Chicago Wilderness region

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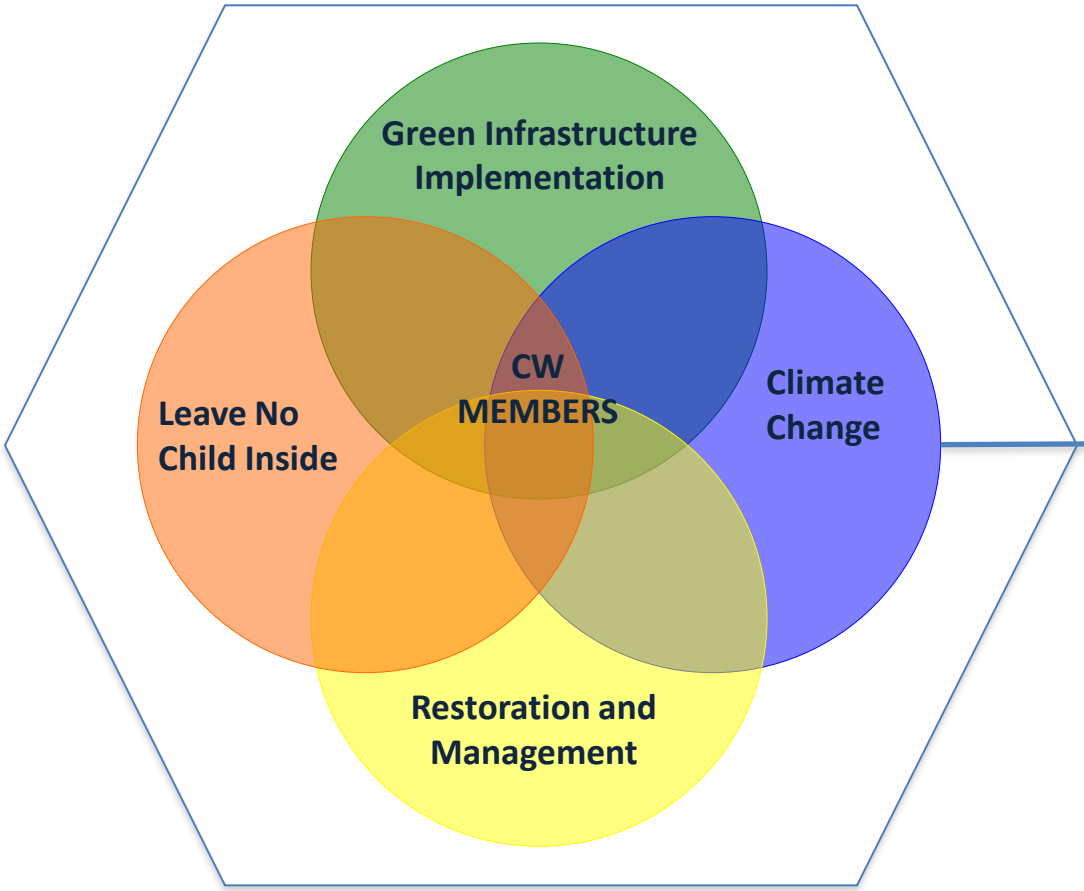
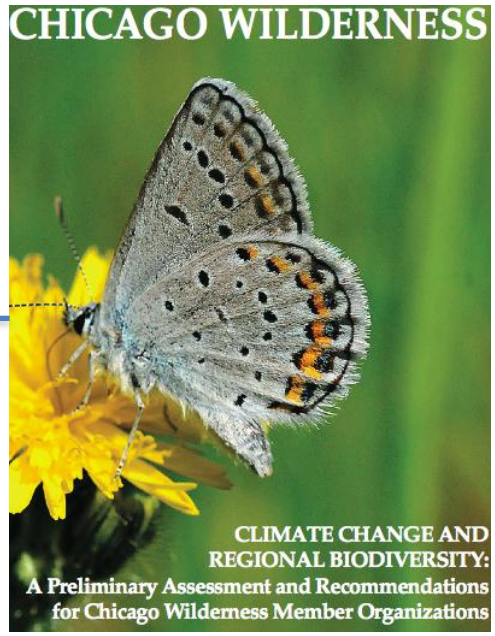
Strategic Initiatives





Regional Biodiversity Recovery

Chicago Wilderness Climate Action Plan for Nature

Climate Action Plans

City of Chicago Climate Action Plan

- Human population
- Buildings
- Transportation infrastructure
- Landscaping

- Urban forests
- Water infrastructure
- Vacant land

Chicago Wilderness Climate Action Plan for Nature

- Rivers and lakes
- Restored natural areas
- Remnant natural areas
- Native species

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BIODIVERSITY RECOVERY PLAN

Climate Change Update

Bridging the Gap(s)

Global changes ⇨ **Local change** ⇨ **Impacts to regional biodiversit**

⇨ **Engagement of resource managers** ⇨ **Adaptation strategies**








Lincoln
Park

Chicago Wilderness

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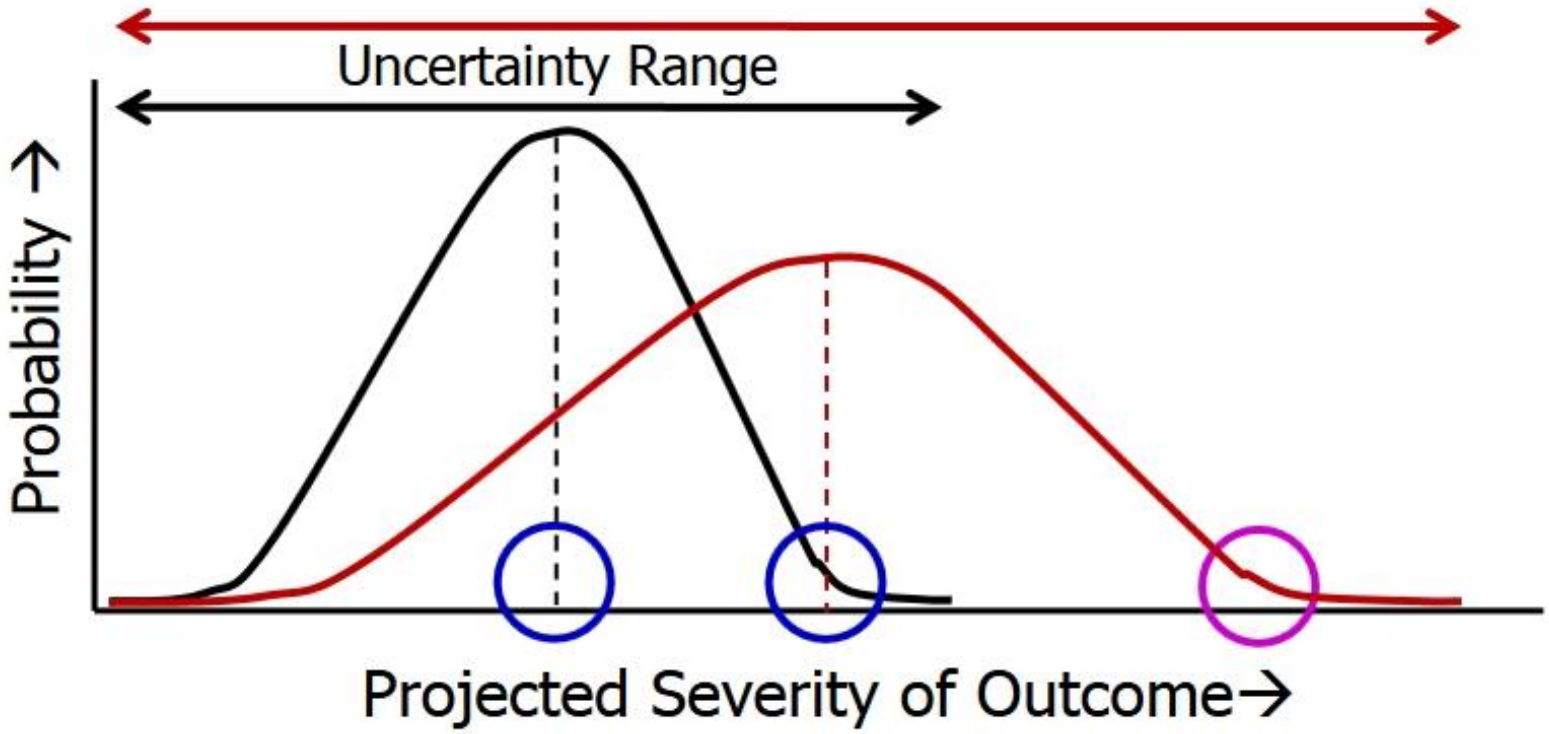
Risk matrix



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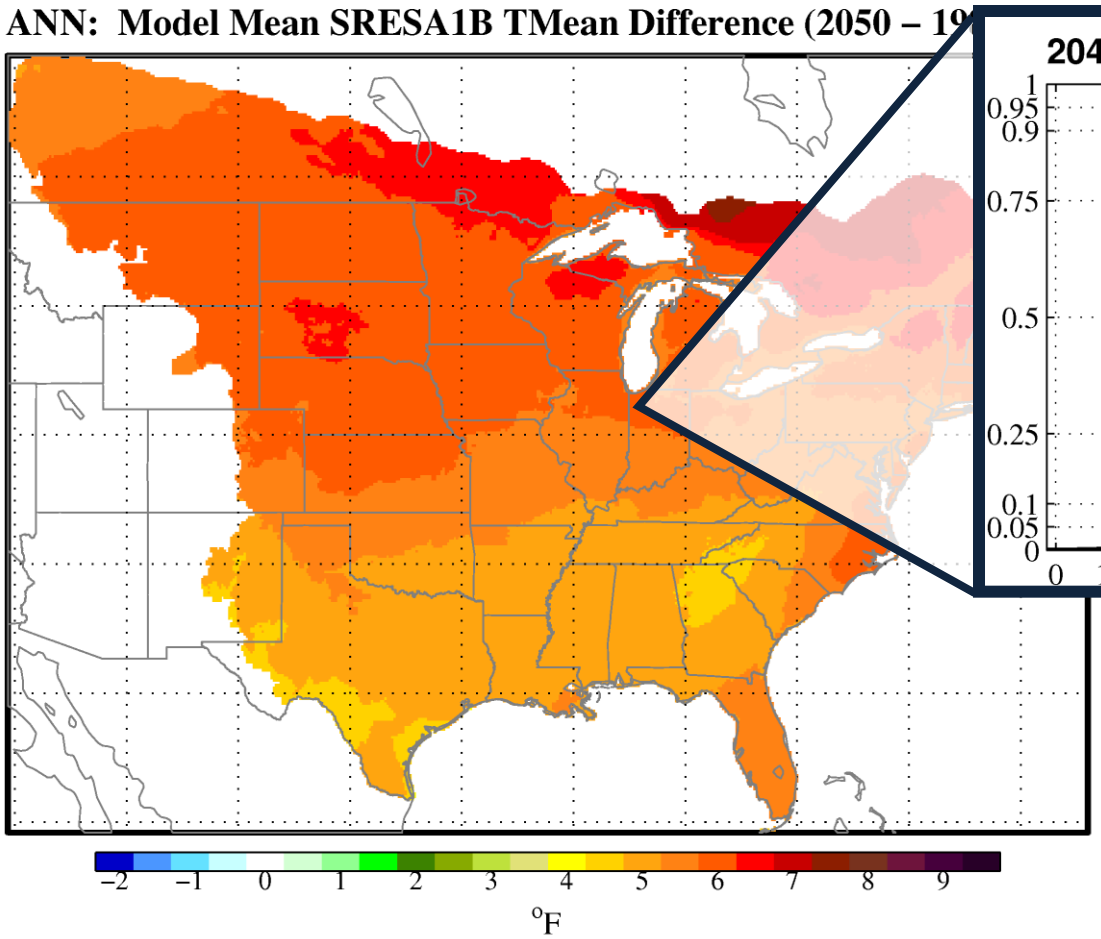
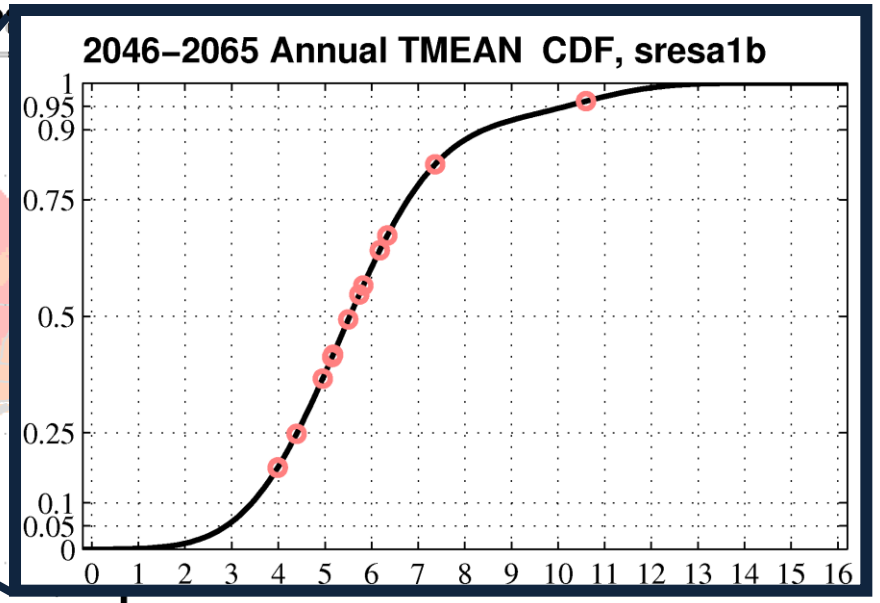
Annual Daily Temperature Change





Area will warm by 3° – 8° F by mid-21st century

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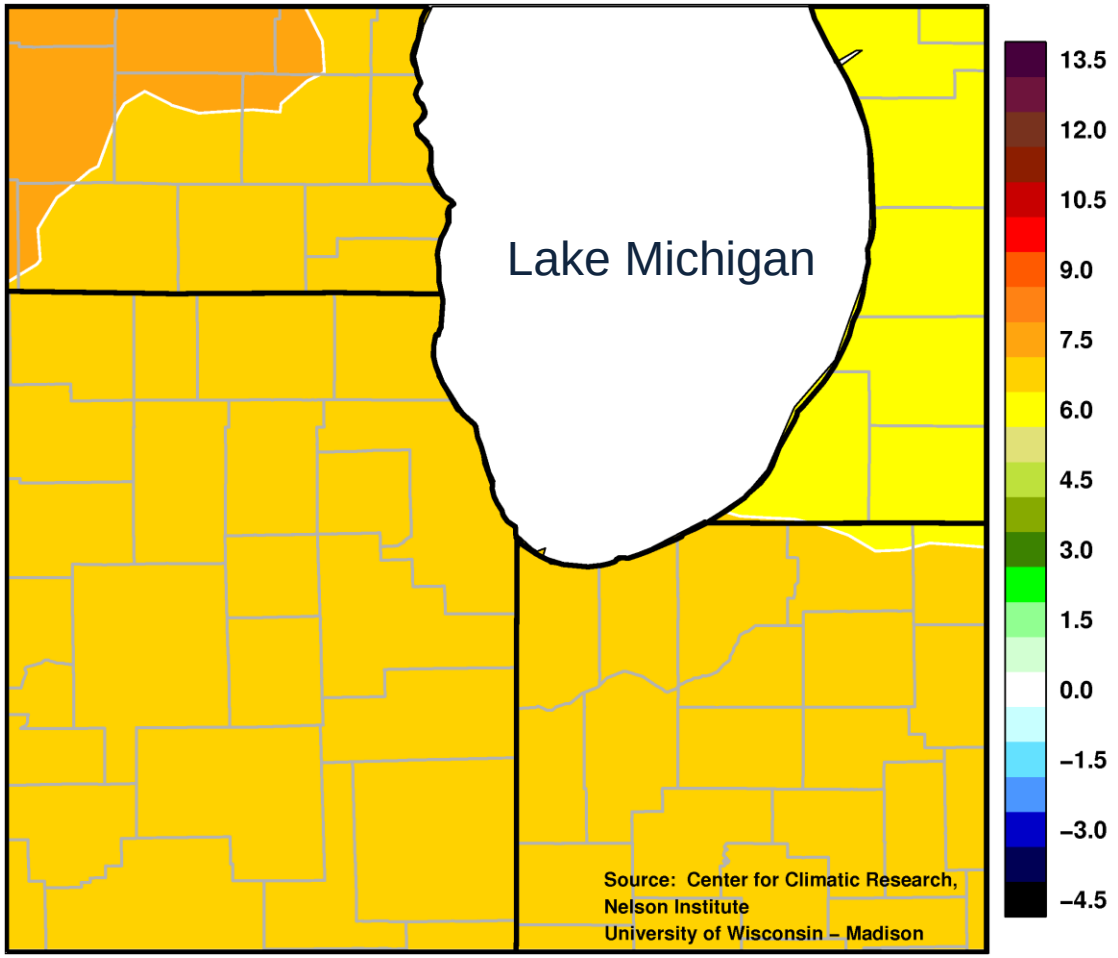
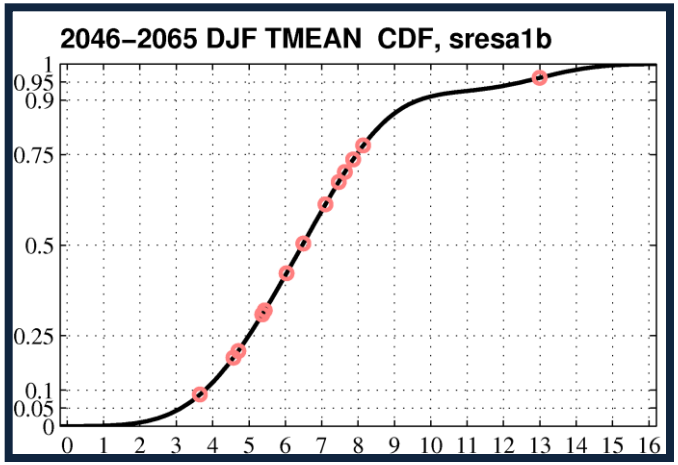
Winter Daily Temperature Change

Projected Change in DJF Average Temperature (°F) from 1980 to 2055 (A1B)





Winter Average temperature will increase by 4-10 ° F by 2055

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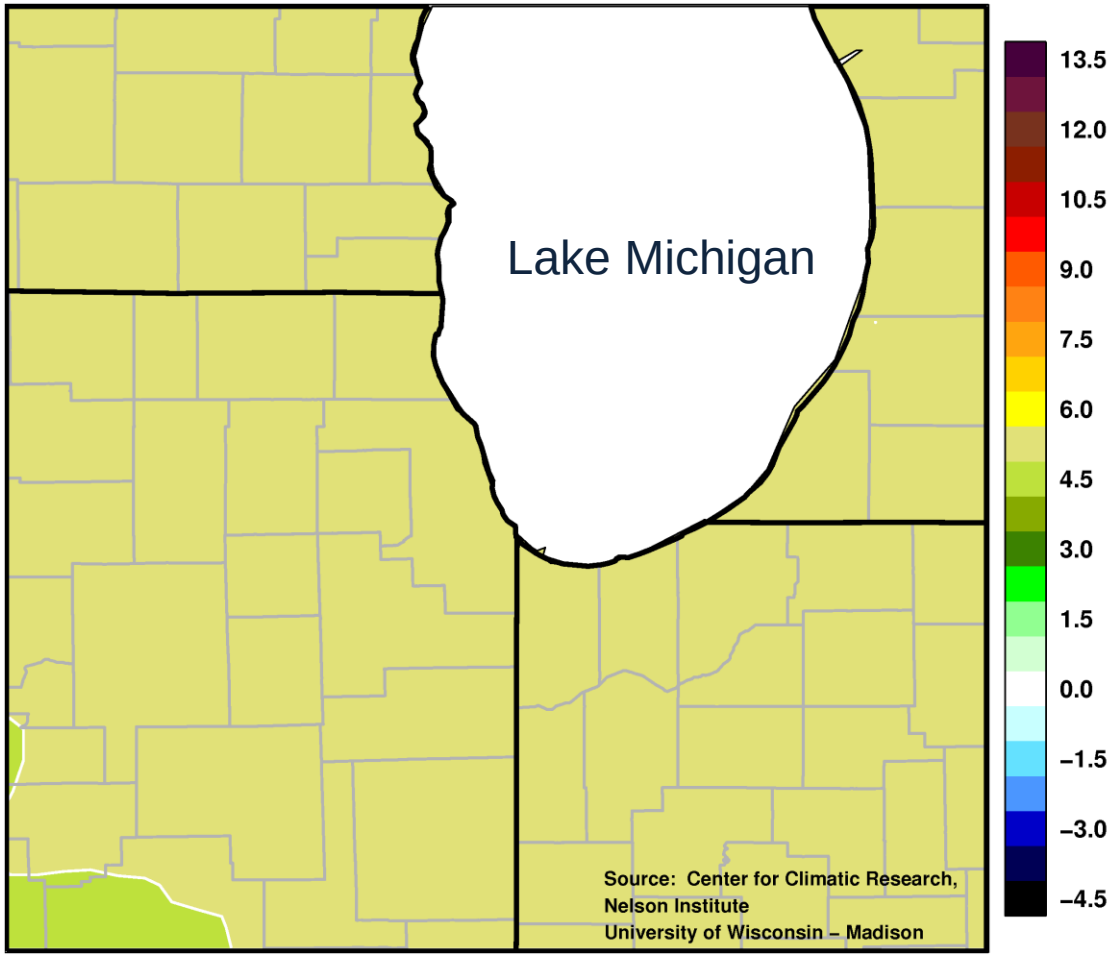
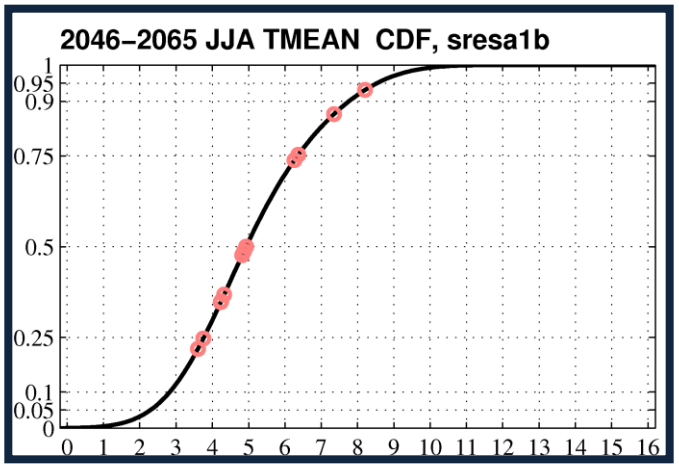
Summer Daily Temperature Change

Projected Change in JJA Average Temperature (°F) from 1980 to 2055 (A1B)





Summer Average temperature will increase by 3-8 ° F by 2055

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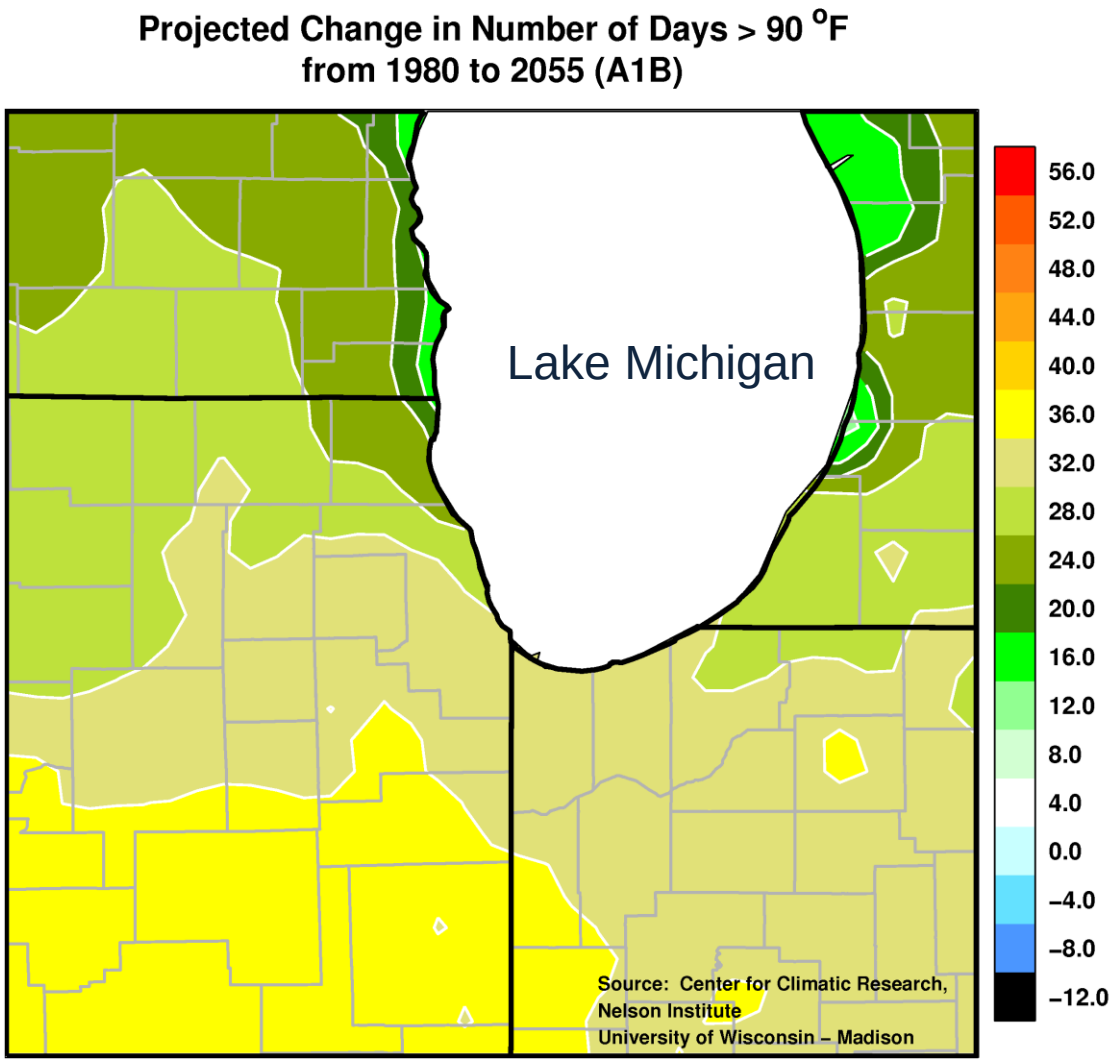
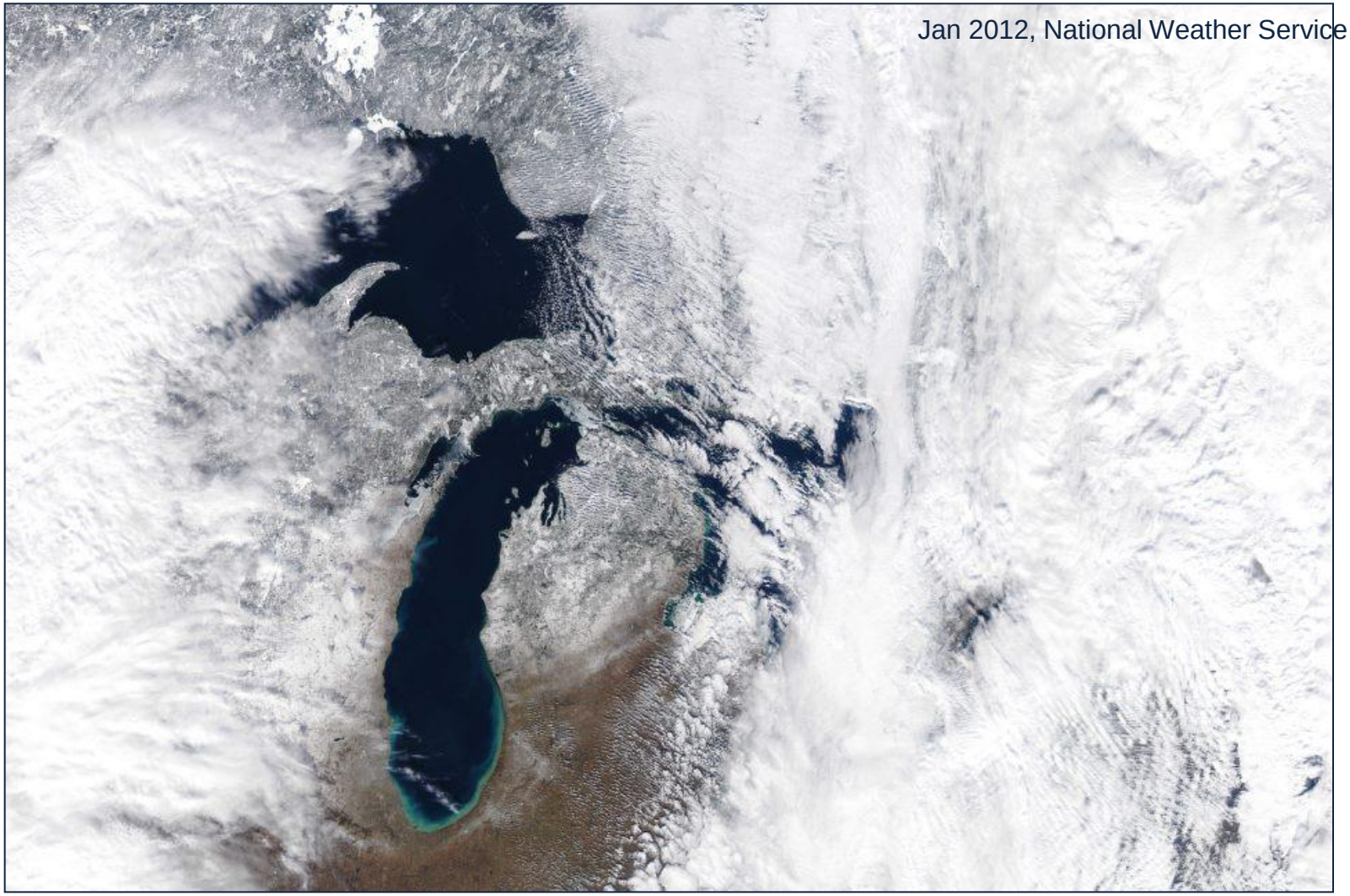
Increased No. of Days > 90° F



Increase in the number of very hot days (>90° F) by ~ 4 weeks/year



Jan 2012, National Weather Service

Lake Michigan 1973-2010

- Water warmed by 3.3˚ F
- Winter air temperatures over lake warmed by 2.7˚ F
- Ice cover reduced by 77%

Impacts to biodiversity

Direct effects

- Temperature
- Precipitation
- Increased intensity of weather events

Indirect effects

- Range shifts
- Predators/disease/invasives
- Timing of important life cycle events

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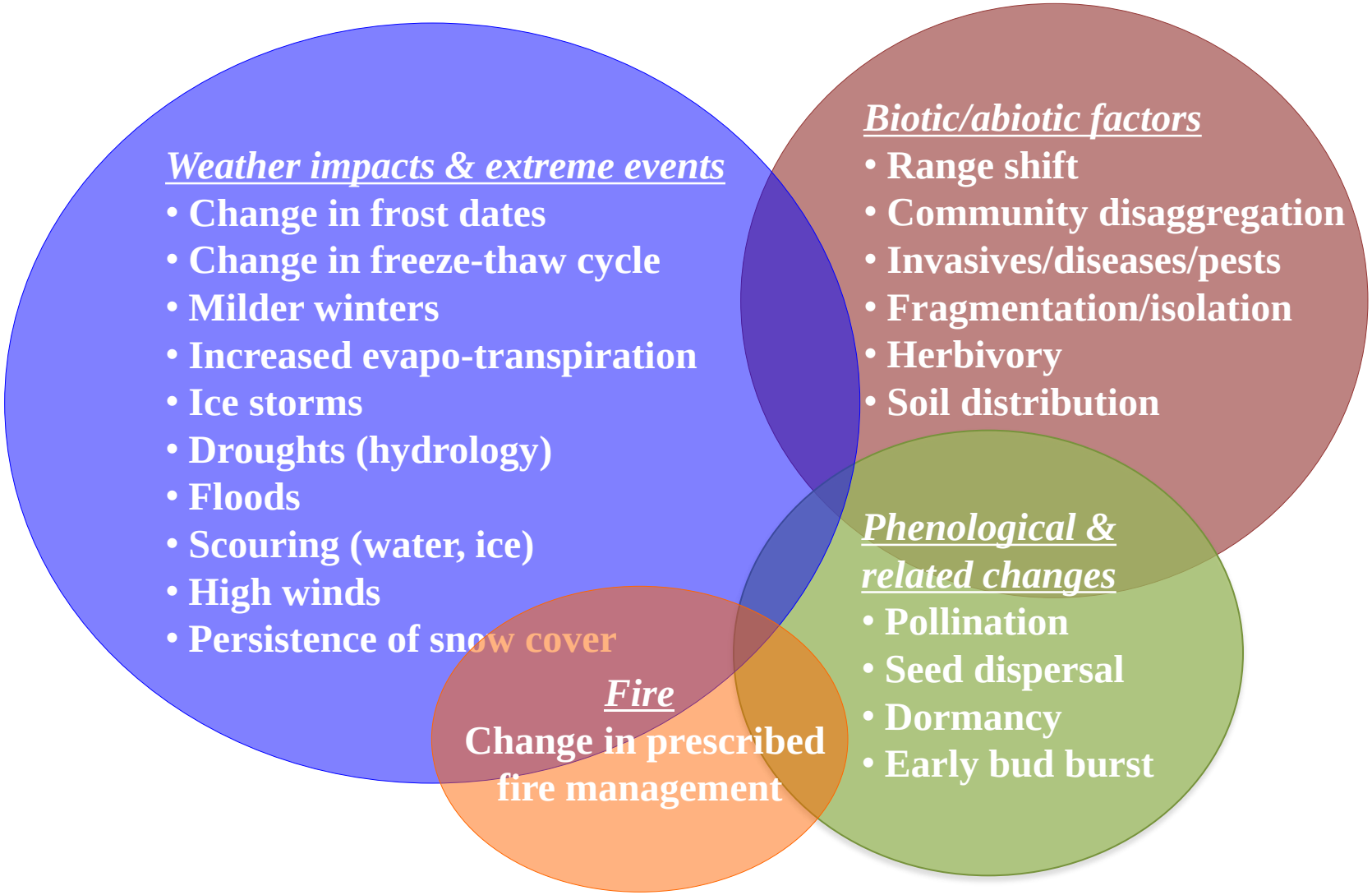
Impacts to plants/natural communities



Identifying climate-sensitive decisions

What management actions could reduce a natural area's vulnerability to specific climate-related impacts?

- Drought and heat stress
- Extreme storms (e.g., precipitation flashiness and flooding)
- Loss of key functional system or species

(this is how we did it)

http://climate.chicagowilderness.org

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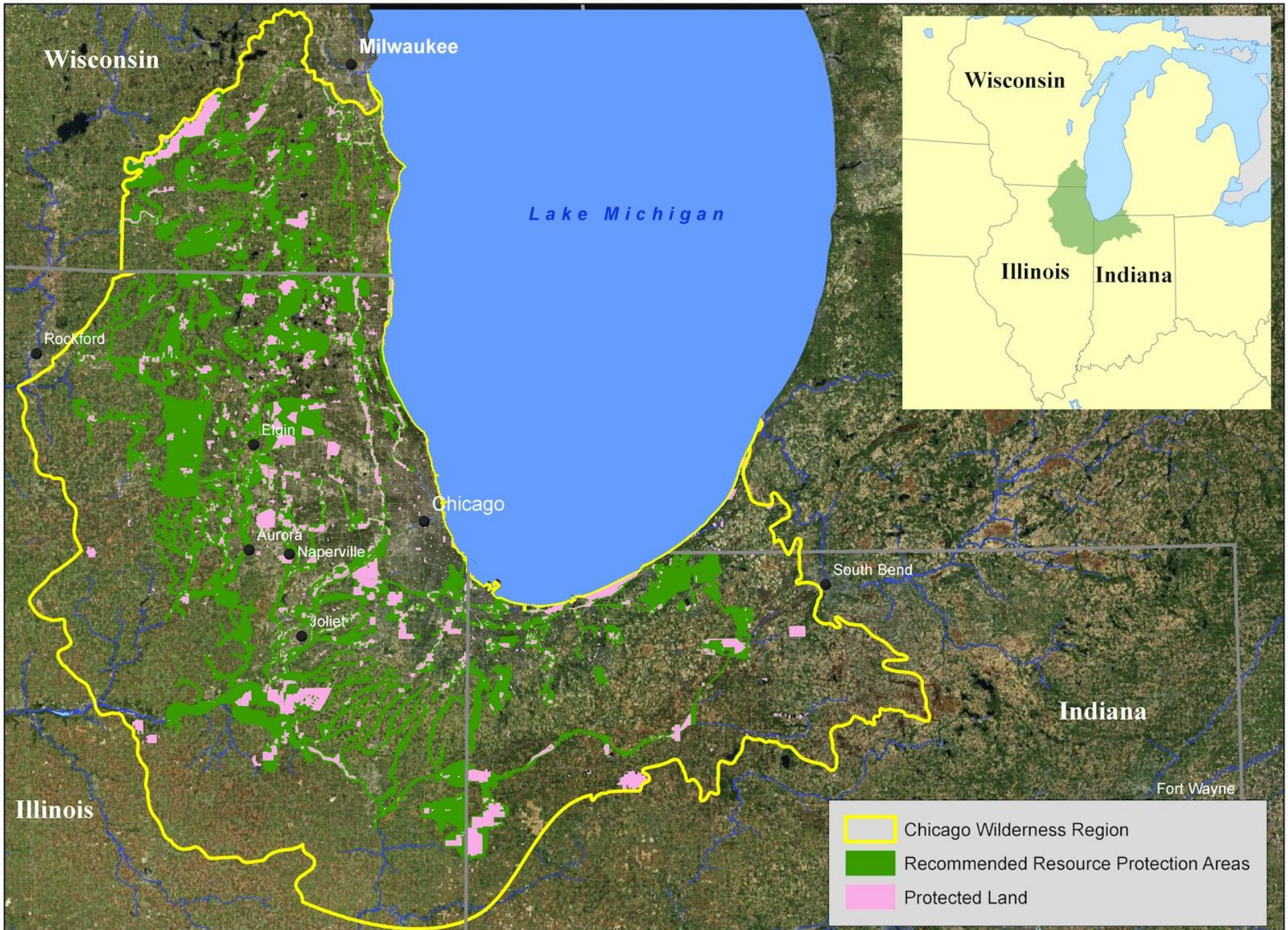
"It is not the strongest of the species that survive, nor the most intelligent, but the ones most responsive to change!" - Charles Darwin

Changing Landscapes in the Chicago Wilderness Region: A Climate Change Update to the Biodiversity Recovery Plan

Recognizing the potential of climate change to jeopardize the conservation investment that has taken place in the Chicago Wilderness region, in 2007 the Chicago Wilderne
Council established Climate Change as one of four thematic initiatives, along with the Green Infrastructure Vision, Leave No Child Inside, and Restoring the Health of Local N
and carry out the work of this initiative, CW established the Climate Change Task Force (Task Force) to "study and make recommendations on adaptation strategies and mod
order to address the local impact of climate change." In 2008, the Task Force produced *Climate Change and Regional Biodiversity: A Preliminary Assessment and Recomme*

- ✧ 100 + regional managers, scientists and researchers contributed
- ✧ place-based adaptation strategies for biodiversity
- ✧ research questions needed to inform climate-smart management
- ✧ web-based tool

Chicago Wilderness Green Infrastructure Vision



Join the Climate Change Newsletter!

Contact
aderby@fieldmuseum.org

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